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ABSTRACT

Based on the theory that learning takes place if the learner is able to relate new knowledge to something already known, the course of study described in this booklet consists of recording stories dictated by individual students and using these stories as a basis for teaching reading and creative writing to students from preschool through adult levels. The first part of the booklet provides an overview of the course, which was developed for use with Belizean students in a Peace Corps program; discusses problems these students had with English verb tenses and cultural aspects of the stories they produced; and describes teaching methods, primarily Irawn from the language experience approach, used with the students. The second part of the booklet contains sample lessons, word cards, vocabulary lists and student stories, while the final part contains materials used to teach phorics, vocabulary, word configuration, and story vocabulary in different contexts. (FL)



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Teaching Reading and and Creative Writing:

A Language Experience Approach

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TEACHING READING AND CREATIVE WRITING:

A Language Experience Approach

by

Margaret Hart Comprehensive School Belmopan, Belize

Peace Corps
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	i
Method of Instruction	1
Pre-Year Stories (Including examples of Word Cards and Vocabulary Lists)	7
irst Year Stories	39
Second Year Stories	59
Third Year Stories	69
Adult Stories	81
Skills Development Phonics	91
Building New Words 10)5
Word Configuration) 7
Story Vocabulary in Different Contexts	ე9
Writing Lessons	11



INTRODUCTION

This course of study was developed for five remedial reading classes of secondary school students, and also for remedial reading instruction for one adult. The basic method used here can be adapted for teaching reading and creative writing to students from the infant school level to adulthood. The vocabulary, or thought content of the material, will be relevant to the student because it comes from his own background of experience. He has a personal interest in the message the material conveys. All instruction is based on the theory that learning takes place if the learner is able to relate new knowledge to something be already knows.

The course of study consists of recording stories dictated by individuals. and using these stories as a basis for developing the required skills for reading, and creative writing. To achieve success in literacy programs, 1 believe that all the reading skills must be developed with scrupulous attention to the value of each one, as a part of the syncronized whole, which is instruction for reading with comprehension, and expressing one's ideas in writing with clarity. To eliminate any of these skills from a reading instructional program, to give less than the necessary amount of instruction and practice to any of them, or to overemphasize some, phonics for example: and exclude, or give insufficient attention to others, is to contribute to the lack of success in the development of literacy programs. Another important consideration in instructional programs in reading, is to allow for realistic time allotments. In a primary grade it is generally estimated that at least twenty-five minutes are necessary for developmental reading instruction for a single group, (most orimary classes have three groups), and also time must be allotted daily for a separate chanics lesson in addition to the phonics skills that are taught as an integral part of each reading lesson. To give due time to the language or creative writing component requires another period daily; so that at leart two and three-quarters hours daily is necessary for language arts instruction. Handwriting skills must also be taught daily. Legible handwriting is a basic requirement for a language program. Because the length of a class period at the secondary school level is usually about fifty minutes, it is necessary to sorbed the teaching of these skills over



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6

a period of several days.

As is evident from the material that has been used to compose these story books, some braic supplies are essential to make sufficient cooles available for student and teacher use. These are: duplicating machine (mimeograph or spirit duplicator), master sheets or stercils, adequate supplies of ink or fluid for the machine, paper in sufficient quantity to produce multiple copies, binding material such at oak tag, cardboard, Bristol board, rubbon, yarn, string or thread, crayons or paints for illustration. (If illustration is not done, much conceptual development is lost). We found, too, that material printed on a spirit duplicator fades in the light. I had the great advantage of having all the machine copying of the material done by an absistant at the Comprehensive School, which gove no much more time, and energy, to devote to the instructional program. He traveled a distance to another school to do this work because a machine is not available here.

Some of the processes described here, for example recording the story by each student for individual vocabulary words, would be done in infant solubal, and primary classes, by the teacher; and during the initial stager of word-matching instruction she would use word cards for matching and flashing of approximately 3 by 9 inch size for comparing to like words in a large demonstration copy (on oak tag or Bristol board, approximately 13 by 24 inches), of the story the class is working on.

In supplementary work, or reinforcement exercises, more enchasis can be alaced on the development of specific skills in individualized instruction which is adepted to the particular learning style of each student. The development of apparatus for this kind of thing requires much planning and time. As the instructional program develops, a skills checklist should be designed, also, to test periodically the development of each skill in each student.

For adequate phonics instruction there should be at least one word in the stories' vocabulary beginning with one of each of the letters of the alphabet. Keep this in mind, and clicit words in story context that would not be likely occur otherwise, for example, quiet, zipper, xylophone. Words in English beginning with x are rare; it seems better to use words ending with x for this exercise.



ii

The teaching of phonics starts with the first story, and develops in this way, as an integral part of each dealy reading lesson.

Word configuration skills, and the use of story vocabulary in a different context by students, is an integral part of each reading lesson also.

Using stories vocabulary in centences composed by students offers the opportunity not only for developing prestive writing, but reinforcing good patterns of English usage; tenses of verbs, punctuation, styles of writing.

A good foundation in phonics is necessary to read well. To small well also depends on knowledge of phonics, and to a degree, on the use of the dictionery.

In the future, when working on this kind of reading instruction, I would plan more carefully to elicit vocabulary in the students stories that would provide a better basis for the phonics instruction. With more foregight, almost every beginning sound and bland could have been included in the stories vocabulary. That this was not done in this course of study is an obvious weakness.

Tenses of verbs

Generally these Belizean students I work with, because they speak Creole as well as English, or Spanish or an Indian dislect as a first language; tend to use the present tense, almost always, in speaking and writing. For this reason the stories must be used, too, for systematic teaching of the correct forms of the verb, depending on when the action takes place. These students generally use the present tense in English regardless of what time they are speaking about; past, present, future. For this reason much patterning and reinforcement must be done on verb forms. Nevertheless, Salizean Gracle incorporates the English language, so that in Salize, English is not taught as a foreign language.

Word configuration

(Student's stories ere the source of this vocabulary)

works	with	FEAT	when	
<u>Cere</u>	Ţoāķē,	[Bimca]		
have;	halp	half	กับดูรู	DEST CONT
it nev	teke	theti	Spen:	ر از ایندها

yerd year! feed fish fārm! (Prom) ้มีอัต่น gled, s tary study uncle Junder: drink. drove! ,និឲ្យខន្ធ " swim' mother myself like; lets break. ື້ນກໍາໂ**ກູ**້ສູ້: Inflected forms comes. Come! have: had having. had.

Apperatus

The methods and meterials used here in developing reading skills can also be expanded for use in individualizing instruction, for reinforcing whills, and for correcting weaknesses, and providing interesting, useful seatwork for students. There are a variety of ways of using word metching, phonics, word configuration, story illustration; either in apparatus or by use of multiple copies. The quality of this meterial will depend on the ingenuity of the teachers, and their ability to communicate ideas to each other.

Cultural Ascects of Student's Stories

A most important feature of some of these stories of Belizean students is that they relate the Jearning of skills in the femily, and the surroundings, as well as in the school. For example, boys tell of learning ferming skills from their fathers, as they tell of learning how to make cement blocks from their fathers, or how they have learned a second or third language from a perent or a friend. Young people have told me of skills that they have, and their processes, such as dressing chickens, beking Creole breed in a drum, making johnny cake, making clothing from a pattern designed and drefted in the home. I did not have the opportunity to record many of these skills



9

and their processes, but in my work in the future, I will make it a priority to elicit stories from students which describe skills and their processes that are locally taught; either in the home or the neighborhood, or the district. I would encourage a very explicit description of a method of doing something. For exemple, if the skill to be related were how to bake Greole bread in a drum, I would ask such questions as: "Where would you get the firewood? How would it have been cut? Where would you get the drum? How would it be prepared for use as an oven? Where would it be best to place this oven? What are the time elements for preparing the fire, baking the bread? What ingredite are needed to make Greole bread? One of the ingredients is coconut milk. How is it made?" Stories prepared in this way develop literacy, and they also record and preserve the local culture.

Many local customs that students have described to me I didn't have time to record. I would encourage students who farm in a milpa, to describe other crops than corn, that they raise in a milpa setting. Why the lend is sheared by a slash and burn method, rather than in other ways. Which operations are carried on at a particular time of the year. How they prepare their own sands for planting. Do they use local fish for fertilizer? Or what fertilizer do they use?

Students telk about how their fathers, in the home, make cassave graters using mahogany, or how their grandmothers cook in an iron pot, in an open fire outside the house. Spanish-speaking Belizeans propose delicious food from different forms of corn, and Carib Belizeans from such vegetables as cassava. I would take particular interest in helping students put these processes into printed story form.

Ameding Aloud to Students

In any instructional program in reading, reading aloud to students regularly, from a wide variety of literature, is most necessary. Salize has a national library system which has been a resource for my work. The Comprehensive School has a library, and I have used literature from there, too.

In a developing country which lacks resources such as these, e teacher



The state of the s

would passibly be able to assemble her own library of literature from such' sources as A.T.D., the O.A.S., C.A.R.E., and other organizations whose purpose is international development. The Darien-Sook Aid Plan of Darien. Connecticut has been most denerous in providing me with a very choice selection of children's literature; both in English, and Spanish. Although English is the official language of Belize, in many homes here Spanish is the first lenguage.

Handwriting

Manuscript and cursive handwriting was reinforced with these students. by taking a separate lasson daily, on each letter of the alphabet. As in all the other components of this course of study, the stories vocabulary would be used as a basis to teach, or review handwriting skills. (For quick referenceuse the composite vocabulary list at the end of the collection of Pre Year's stories.)

Workbooks, Word Cards, Vocabulary Lists Compiled By Students

Enclosed are samples, or comple booklets for each area of this course of study:

> word cards vocabulary lists phonics word configuration

stories

centences using stories vocabulary in a different context writing lessons

Examples of the workbooks, wordcards, and vocabulary lists for only the Pre Year class have been included here. However, all of these components were developed with each of the other four classes, and with the one adult student, throughout each course. The development of these components required much student involvement, which was what was intended, so that maximum learning would take place.

rv

Method of Instruction

- 1. Here a student dictate an experience. The teacher, as scribe, writes this story on the board, unobtrusively correcting grammatical errors. This story is then printed on a Sestetner masteranced, and the mastersheet is given to the author to illustrate. Multiple copies are proposed from this on a machine. These copies are distributed to the class. Over a period of time each student, will have contributed a story, and will have added it to a book which includes a story from each student in the class.
- 2. Ar each story is returned to the class, distribute blocked paper. The vocabulary of the story is copied into senarate blocks on this paper. The blocked paper than is out up into individual word cards and these used to develop the following reading skills:
 - word metching (recogni-ing word in context)
 - 2. flesh card drill (recognizing words out of context)
 - 3. \ placing vocabulary in alphabetical order phonics skills:
 - e. beginning sounds
 - b. finel sounds
 - c. middle sounds
 - d. long and short vowel sounds
 - e. beginning blends, e.g. st, ch, fl, br.
 - f. sounds formed from my, em, igh, etc.
 - g. building new words from story vocabulary by replacing initial consenants ex: day way pay hay stay
 - h. paradigms, or inflacted forms of nouns and verbs
 - i. word syllabication
 - 5. Word configuration (for differentiating words by their shape, if they begin with the same letter, and have the same number of letters; and also for distinguishing peredigms or inflected forms of words.)

here help

face faces

6. Using stories vocabulary and language patterns as a basis for creative writing. Student selects a word from a story. With



this he constructs a sentence using the word in a different context than that in which it appeared in the story. Phrases, and sentences, from the stories canabe used in the same way.

Phonics

(The basis of all the phonics lessons is vocabulary from student's stories, or words elicited from studentr in class, in a frame of reference.)

- 1. Initial consonants and vowels.
 - a b c, c(suft) d e f, oh g,r (soft), g (silent) h, h(silent) i j k, k(silent)

 l m n o p q r s t u v w x y (as a consonant and a vnwel) z

 (Final and middle sounds can be taught using the same procedure. Find necessary words in story vocabulary, or elicit them from students in a frame of reference.)
- 2. Blends Letters combined in a sound whose separate constitutents cannot be distinguished. (Teach each of these using a word from stories' vocabulary, or a word elicited from a student in a frame of reference.)

```
bl, br
ch, cl, cr, cy
dr, dw, dy
fl, fr
gh, gl, gr
ph, pl, pr
rh
sh, sl, sm, sn, sp, st, sw
th, tr, tw, ty
wh, wr
```

3. Short vowels combined with consonants to build words of one syllable.

ab	a b	15	nb,	ub	example:	cab	map	rib	job	tub
ed	€ď	1 d	bc	ud	•	•				
ag	æg	ig	og	ng	* \a/starf				.•	
am	em	im	Om	um	· Conference ·	,				
em	en	1 .m	øn	un						
ap	e p	ip.	op	up						
et	et	はな	ot	ut		13	1 7:3		11.	•
ax	数×	i×	אם	ux.		~ (L. act	t / 1	* 70	•

4. Long vowels (e at the end rule)

```
example: made cade hide code rude
                              ude
               ide
                      ade
ade
       ede
Egs
       ege
               ige
                       oge
                              uge
ake
       cke
               ike
                      oke
                              ukw
               ile
                       ole
                              ule
ele
       ele
               ime
                       ome
                              ume
eme
       eme
               ±n⊜
                       one
                              une
       #ne
               ipe
                       ope
                              upe
epe
       BD8
               ite
                       ote
                              ute
ete
       ete
```

5. Building words from known words by replacing initial consonant

house	get	race
mouse	let	face
	met	pace
•	set	
	net	
	wet	

6. Vowel sounds produced by letter combinations such as:

ay	ee	1.	oe.	ue
a i	Ca	уe	00	6.A
eigh		igh		
aidh				

examples:	stay	week	tie	boat	Tuesday
	meil	neet	eye	toe	new
	eight		high		
	streight				

After the sounds of the letters of the alphabet are taught, there are an infinite number of ways that they can be combined in phonics exercises.

Only a few examples are given here. The important thing is to teach the basic sounds from the stories vocabulary.

- a apples, about, apron (Must teach <u>long</u> a with a word provided in other than story context (apron used here) because & word beginning with long a doesn't occur in stories vocabulery)
- b biscuits
- c color cinema
- d doughnuts
- e egg eet
- f fast (Must teach ph with a word provided. No ph word occurs in this story vocabulary)
- g garden (Must teach soft g with word provided. Perhaps "gentle". Silent
 with word like gnome.)
- .h house silent h honest
- i if (Must teach long i with word provided in other context, perhaps ice or iron.
- j Johnny
- k Kool-Aid (Must teach silent k with a word like knee)
- 1 lettuce
- m mangors
- n nine
- o on
- p Palestine
- q quiet (No q word occurs in story vocabulary. Elicit the word quiet in a sentence)
- r rebbite
- s sendwiches
- t teke
- u uncle
- v vegetable
- w want
- x xylophone (Doman't occur in stories vocabulery. Elicit, or offer it in a sentence.)
- y year my
- z zipper (Doesn't occur in stories vacabulary. Elicit it in a sentence from a student.)
- N.S. Check with Bliss Institute Library, or National Library on No. Front St. Belize City to see if they have First 1.600 Words in Children's Reading, so vocabulary can be evaluated for suitability.



```
bl blue (Not in stories...)
br brought
    chicken
cl climb
or creck
cy cyc's (Not in stories...)
dr drove
dwerf (Doman't occur in stories,..)
       (Doesn't occur in stories...)
dye
f.1
       (Ocesn't occur in stories...)
fr friend
gn grout (Doesn't occur in stories...)
gl ylad
gr grandmother
.ph phone (Doesn't occur in stories...)
pl plowing
    price (Docsn't occur in stories...)
gh
    she ·
sl Slusher
    small
sn snap (Doesn't occur in stories...)
    Spanish
    students
st
    swim
BW
    then
    tree
tr
tw
    two
    type (Doesn't occur in stories)
wh when
wr write
sch school
str straight (Doman't occur in stories...)
thr three (Not in stories, but a familiar Word to most students.)
```

Sample phonics luccon for teaching sound of a letter

Teacher tells class she is going to say some words that begin with the same sound as a word in one of the student's stories (for example, garden) and one that does not begin with the same sound. The students are to tell the teacher when they hear the word that did not begin with the same sound as the others.

Toecher says:

garden
game
good
get
governor
give
gum
sign
gate
guld

Students tell her that "sign" did not begin with the same sound as the others.

Teacher then asks students to take turns providing her with words that begin with the same sound as "garden". As the students provide the words they are printed in a column on the board by the teacher.



A student can be anked to come to the borrd and underline the "g" sound with chalk of a contrasting color while the other students say the sound in unison.

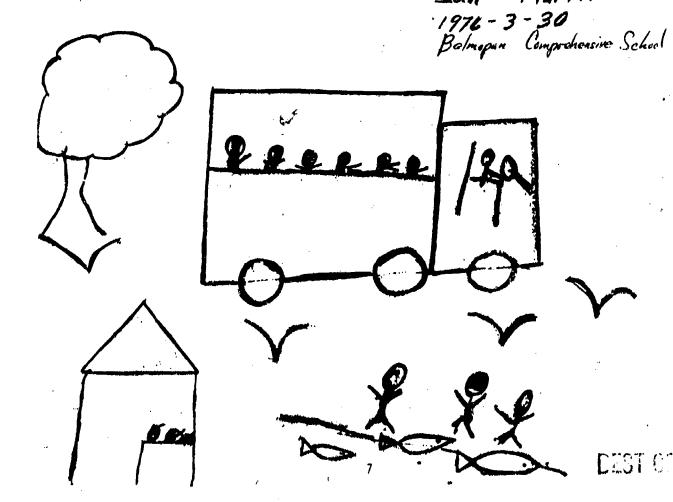
This lesson can be comised onto paper by students, and illustrated with objects which represent things which begin with the "g" sound. These copies of individual lessons can be compiled into a notebook by each student. They make a useful reference. The illustrations can be drawn by the students themselves, or cut from magazine illustrations. For reinforcement students should be asked, "What letter smells the sounds "g".



Pre-Year Nine Miles From Stann Creek

We have a two and one-half month vacation during the Summer Then my parents let us go to my grandmoither's farm. When my grandmother sees us, she hugs us because she is so glad that we have come.

Every day my grandmother takes my sisters Lynn and Beulah, and my self to swim at the river. She gets good things to eat, like mangoes, especially for us. She lets me help by feeding the pigs.



Word Cards				
, Vinc	M, 1c	From		
N Tanin	(ree k	We		
	<i>a</i>	two		
5.7.	ene half	month		
1 accition	during	· the		
. Summer	1/2017	my		
par ents	le+	L15		
90	+0	my		
grandmether's	form	Mhen		
iny	grand mether	sees		
· (1)	she	hugs.		
415	beause	she		
/5	5.0	glad		
theit	WG	have		
	9			

19

LEGICAL MANAGE

,	Word Car	25
(c)	Freig	day
, ; y	grandmed her	takes
	sisters	Lynn
in d	Beulah	and
proself	to	S.W/116
int-	the	FIVEF
ile	gests.	good
things	to	eat
like	mangue s	es pecially
· / 11-	US'	She.
1015	me	help
ry	feeding	the
12195	Lan	Murillo
12. Intopan	Congrehensive	. School.
	11	

Vocabulary
Miles From Stand Crock ske grandmather Grandmother's sisters 50 h. cause help Stann De lucy xu 111195 Summer swim takes Boulak Ian 15 that Come 1et t/200 12/5 Comprehensive then like. things Crock Lynn day two mangoes during me US miles vacation cut month especially WC Murillo When EVERY my farm myself feeding mille one-half for purents From 19195 yots. river ylad school 5005

good

Belmopan Comprehensive School

I am going to the Belmopan Comprehensive School. We have beautiful Teachers. Mrs. Cayetano is one. I like het ways. If we ask ker to tell a story she will. Students learn to cook and sew here. We also have a beautiful library. Mrs Morder has made it

The fifth year students are selling sweets to get money for their graduation. Gay Slusher 1976-3-26 Belmapan Comprehensive Schoot



ord Card	i İS
Comprehensive	Solved
an i	geing
the	Belivopan
School	We
beautiful	teachers
Cayetano	. /5
	1, ke
ways	If
nsk	her
tell	. 0
she	wi //.
lear m	+0
and	SOW -
W (3	a/so
	thee School beautiful Cayetano I ways ask tell she learn

lord Cards	
Mis	Mander.
made	,
7/10	Filth
students	Ur C
sweets	+0
money	for
graduation	Gay
	-
	\ '
	48
	riade The students sweets money

Vocabulary List

Balmopan	Compre hensive	School
CI,	, f	WC.
also -	. /5'	· will
(1++1	1	yeur
and	learn	,
11:5	library	
ask	1,ke	
beautiful	made	
Be Imapan	Marcler	
	nioney	•
Cayetano	Mrs	
Comprehensi	ve one	
,	ackoo/	
cock	sclling	
f, f + h	SEW	•
for	,	
	she	
(-ay	Slusher	
get	50	
•	story.	
going	1/1	•
gradua tion	s weets	
have	teachers	
1245	tell	<i>t</i>
her	the	
here	their	
	to	
	Ways	
	۲۱ ٬	

Coconuts and Swimming on Caye Caulter

One day when I was about eight
years old my uncle took me to
Caye Caulker. We went on a motor
boat and took a lunch of egg
sandwiches, apples, oranges soft drinks.
When we left the boat we went
to our house. I climbed a tree
got some coconut, and had
coconut milk to drink After that
I went for a swim.

Richard Al.
1976-3-25



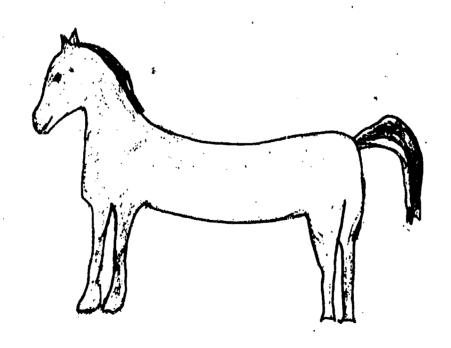


Spanish Lookout, A Mennonite Community One time I went to Spanish Lookout with my uncle. We took the car onto the ferry, got out, and crossed the river standing on the ferry. Spanish Lookout is beautiful. It has lots of houses, countields, and vegetable gardens. I saw a man milking a cow. I saw tobacco fields. Spanish Lookout is a Mennonite Community. It gives good example in farming to Belize. enjoy buying in the many shops there. Ramon Witz storel

About My Horse

One of my father's friends at a race track in Beliza City had a horse. The horse was going to have a colt. My father's friend asked my father if he would like to buy the colt. That is how I got my horse Sharet. She is a tall filly. Her color is brown, and she has a white diamond on her forehead.

Leo Stanley
1976-3-19
Belmapon Comprehensive School



My Work In Belmopan

I work with the Dieterly family. They help us to get chickens, and rabbits.

In their yard I take care of the garden

On Saturday we go to Belize City to buy feed.

We eat with the Dieterlys.

We have barbecued chicken, doughnuts, cake.

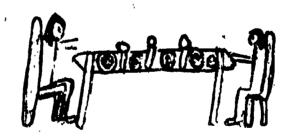
We have Kool-Aid to drink.

I enjoy being with the Dieterlys.

Osbourne Gordon 1976 -3-16 Belmopon Comprehensive Shool











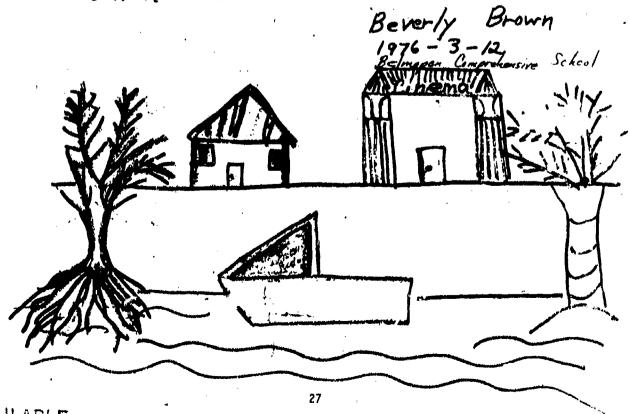




DECT COM MANAGE

A Belizean Caye

Often I go to Caye Caulker by boat. Usually my uncle takes our family. Caye Caulker has beautiful beaches, shops, houses a cinema, coconut trees. When I am there I climb trees to get coconuts. We have our lunch on the boat. For lunch we often bring rice and beans, fried fish that we have caught conch and soft drinks.

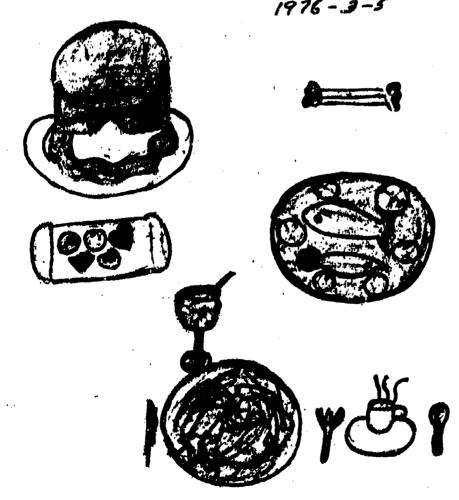


30

Food

The things I like to eat are cakes, hom sandwickes, biscuits, chow mein, fried fish. I bake very good coke I make chocolate cake and pineapple upside-down cake. I like to make lettuce sandwickes.

Therese Chacon



The Young's River Farm I work on a farm. It is on the Belize City road. I work with the plowing. I bring in crops such as bananas. When I have a work break I ride my horse Little Johnny Morce/ Young 1976-3-1 Belmupan Comprehensive School

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Belize City to Corozal

One time when I was small, I went to Corozal.

My mother and my uncle took me there in a car.

We brought a lunch of ham sandwickes, oranges and soft drinks.

I liked the trip. We drove

I liked the trip. We drove fast and stopped at a lot of places.

Edwin Thomas
February 27/976.
Bulmyon Comprehensive School











The Rishmanys

In my house we speak

Spanish, Arabic and English. My

father comes from Palestine. My

mother comes from Chetumal.

My father speaks to us in

Arabic. I want to learn to

read and write in Arabic.

I want to Yearn about Arabic

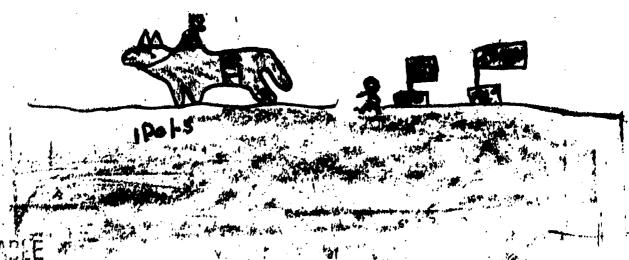
history and culture.

David Bishmawy
February 20, 1976.

Belonger Comprehensive School

But nos Diez Señor SABAHAR NER!

Good Marning Sir God Marring Sa



DEST CONTACTOR

ERIC Full Text Provided by ERIC

Composite Yubulary-All Stories

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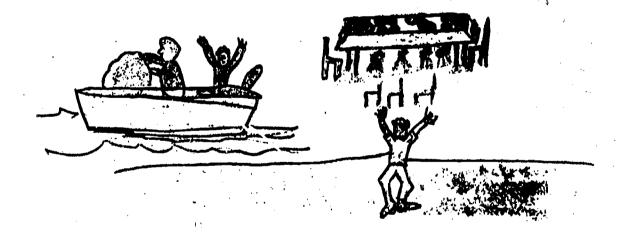
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LEUT COTT WAILASLE

" First Year

Once, in Punta Gorda, my uncle and I went out fishing. When he threw out the net and pulled it in, he was surprised to see so many fish. Among them was a big one we call the barrow. He kept the barrow, and sold the other fish. The barrow made a delicious meal for us.

Francis Arana February 18,1976
Belmopan lamprehasive School



Camping

In Summer we went to a camp at Carol Farm.

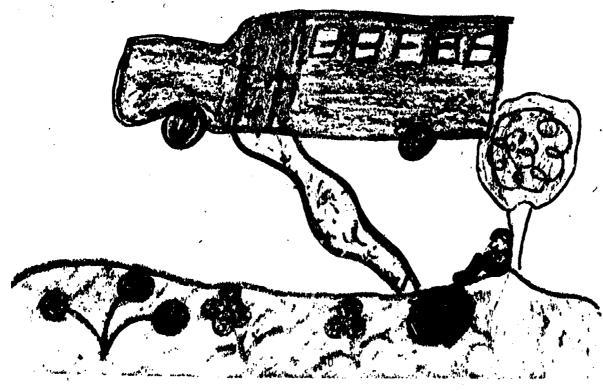
We stayed there one week.

From there we made a day trip to Alfun Ha.

We took a lunch of a sandwich banana, orange and Kool Aid.

Before the week was finished we had a campfire.

Sharon Watson 1976-3-3 Betweepon Comprehensive School



DEST COMY AWAILABLE

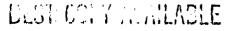


Our class went on a trip to Xunantunich along with First Year One. For lunch we had Spam and tomato sandwiches, oranges, potuto pone and soft drinks. Later in the day we went to San Ignacio to swim. Francis Arona and I went fishing. We caught two fish, a small one and a big one What a great day! VV: 11iam Paxton 1976-3-19 Belmopan Comprehensing &4

Baron Bliss Dox

DEAT PORY ASSUADI

Experience With Horses This post Summer I went to the Lone Star Form where my grandfather was working My grandfather is a cattleman on that ranch. At the ranch I saw a horse that I wanted to put in the Derby Race. My grandfather bought him for me I put him in the race and he won second place. I now have the horse of a stable at Big Falls Ranch My grandfather taught me to ride when I was five. I have loved it Mark Martinez 76 - 3 - 30 Imopan Comprehensive School



A Belmopan Market Stall My mother and father have a stall in the Belmopan Market They sell watermelon, bananas, oranges, limes, tomatoes, peppers, cassavo, cabbage, Irish patatoes and other ground foods. My mother is a Creale cook. Every day she prepares a different lunch to be served in our stall in the market The meal may be boil-up which is made with pig tail or fish, plantains, yams, čoco, cassava, green bananas and flavored with coconut oil. Another day my sister Verna would prepare the meal which would be rice and beans, meat and vegetable salad When I am free from school I go to he market stall. to help to serve in our Glendernge Usher 1976 - 5 - 12
Belmopan Comprehensive School

What a Terrific Day My brother Telford and I Went game hunting in Rancho Dolores. We killed a gibnut and an armadillo. As we went on through the forest we realized we were lost. It was late, and I was getting thirsty, About twelve o'clock we had been passing different hills for some time. I said to myself "I am not only thirsty, but I am getting hungry." At first my brother had been ahead of me leading, then I took the lead. Off and on we missed our road, then found it again in the bush We had marked our trail by cytting with our machete. We had traveled long when we burst out of the bush somewhere near our house When we reached our house my brother and I drank a lot of water brother and I drank a lot of water. I ate two plates of dinner and Tellford ate three, That evening we made a transpoin never to go so far hunting by ourselves. Vernon Pook 1976-5-18 Bolmspan Corprehouse School

ERIC

Farming In Cayo San Ignacio is in the Cayo District. My Uncle Oriole has a form there. He raises cows, and pigs, and chickens. He grows fruit and vegetables, On weekends I go to work with my uncle. I feed the pigs and chickens. I help with the planting, watering and weeding. My uncle's crops include cucumbers, carrots, watermelon, beans, coco, plantain and tomatoes I feel on top of the world when I am helping with my uncle's crops.

Anthony Latitt



The Belmopan Basketball Team On Monday, May 24, the Belmopan Comprehensive School basketball team played Belize City's Charger team here in Belmopan Belmopan plays good basketball. They practice daily and they are especially good In passes. Evan Brown was the top scoring player. Belmopan Comprehensive defeated Charger 35 to 30. The Belmopan boys were very proud of this William Jones
Belmopan Comprehensive
1976 - 5-26 game.

Belize Proves It's Agricultural Petential Every year the Belize Agricultural Show is held in Belmopan at the National Agricultural Show Grounds. At the Show Grounds there are many stalls. Some stalls have fruits such as aranges grapetruit, melons, which are grown locally. Formers display crops they have harvested such as corn, because rice, sugar cone, sorgum, yams, coconuts, bananas, coco, plantain. Livestock such as cottle, pigs, chickens, rabbits were proudly shown by their owners. The Belize Fisheries showed products of our sea. It has been said that Beliza has the potential to feed all of Central America. This year's Agricultural Show seems to prove that this is true. Ernest Mossiah 1976-6-14

My Family

When I lived in Guatamala I spoke only Carib. My mother and father faught us to speak Spanish. Life for me in Guatamala was happy. I have been living in Belize seven years. Our family is happy living in Belize. Our : Be seven Teh Cra muchally :da mamá comida walk

ERIC

Dos Casas Alegres

Mi familia en mi cosa es muy
alegre, y son muy buenos conmigo.

En mi familia somos cinco y nos
qustan reunirnos con nuestros papas
en la sala. Reunirnos para cenar.

Comemos hueyos frijoles, arroz, pan.

En mi familia hay mi mama mi
papa, mi hermano Vialter, y mi
hermana Carolina
Aquí en Belize estoy muy contento
con mis hermanos primos y mis tros.

Francisco Burns
1974-3-30

Two Happy Homes

My family is very hoppy at home
and they are very good to me.

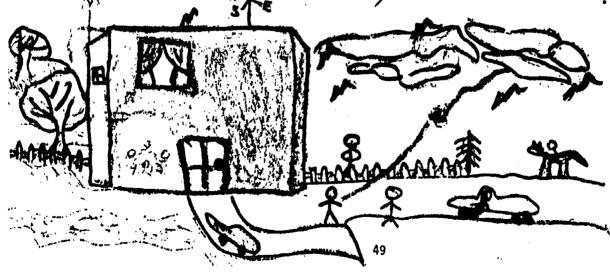
My family is very hoppy of home and they are very good to me.

In my family we are five and we enjoy being together with our parents in the living room. We are together for supper. We eat beans.

eggs, rice, bread.

In my family there are my mother, my father my brother Walter and my sister Caroline.

Here in Belize I om very happy with my cousins and my aunt and uncle.



Placentia Is Near the Beach Side

When I lived in Placencia

I went to school every day

After school I had a job

doing chores for Miss Baby Lou.

My chores were to go and catch

fish, and bring sand from the beach

side, Mornings I used to go

down to the bridge, and catch

fish for my mother. In the

evenings my friends Dean, and

Lil Body, and I would go into the

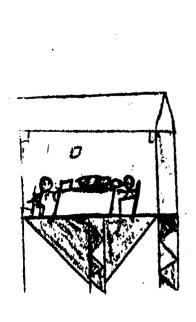
bush and shoot fowl with sling

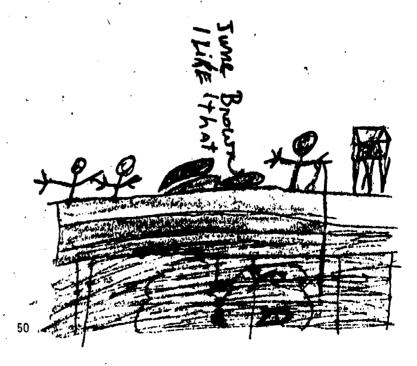
shots. These we would cack and eat

Elsworth Brawn

1976-4-2

Belmipan Comprehensive School

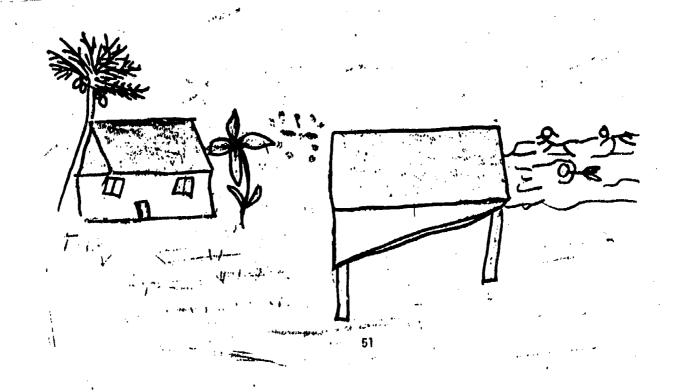




Holidays Means Visiting People

The thought of holidays makes me feel happy. In holiday times I visit my friends in Camalote and Teakettle. Holidays means going to fairs, bathing, going on picnics. Sometimes we visit a form on Humming bird Highway. There we see cows horses, pigs, chickens. We go swimming at Mile Thirty-six. Our Faster Holidays begin next Friday. I am going to play for two weeks.

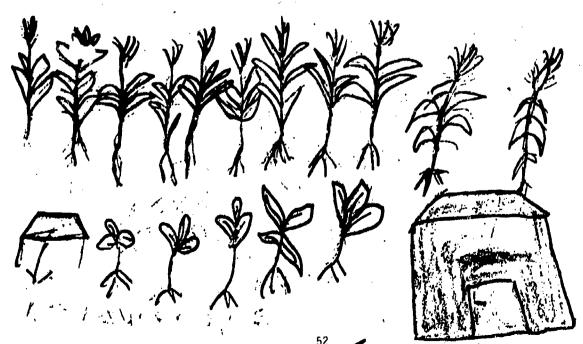
James Burgess 1976-4-1



Belmopan Comprehensive School

Farming In The Bush
On my farm I have planted
corn beens, cucumber and sweet corn
On Saturdays and Sundays I go
to the farm and clean around the
beans. I water my plants with
water I carry from the creek
Sometimes my friends, like Carlos,
come and work along with me.
Sometimes Carlos, Elsworth, Ralph
and I work together selling.
I share profits with my friends.
who work with me.
Francis Martinez

Francis Martinez 1976 - 3 - 26 Belmopan Comprohensive School



The Corn 'ruse

DEST COMP STREETE

Speak Maya Ketchi Spanish and Emplish
Was been in Orange Walk My mother and all of us worms there. Then my mother become ill. My father took her to Merida, but the doctor couldn't attend to her.

She and my father and my brother went to Belize City, and she died In Orange Walk we spoke only Maya, Ketchi and Spanish. Mrs. Perez tought me to speak English here Potricia Briceno
1976-3-19
Belmappen Comprehensive School

Our Form When I lived with my family in Honduras we worked a farm. I was hoppy living in Honduras because I took care of animals I fed the cows, and rabbits, and gave them water. Our formhouse in Honduras was comfortable. It was made of wood. We grew flowers, and vegetables our garden. Belmopan Commohaurive School

DEST COMY ANALADIE

ERIC

Gardening For My Family There is a garden behind our house. At the beginning of the season I get my seeds together.
My family likes best lettuce currots, mustard, eveniber and spinach. My father and I work the garden When my mother needs lettuce or other vegetables, I om happy when they are ready in the garden. I know that my mother will prepare a delivious meal Belmopen Comprehensive School Ma Ma Ma a co co co co Mo Mo Mo Mo Mo M WOOD , Mrs Mrs More More

Raising Rabbits In Belize

There is a little house outside in my yard.

It is made out of wood, and zinc and wire.

It is a rabbit house.

Mr. Dieterly got me rabbits from the United States.

I went to the airport to get the rabbits, and when they landed I was so happy.

Yolanda Mc Coy

1976-3-8

Belmopan Comprehensive School



LANGOTT MOUNTE

I Cook For My Family In my family we all like to cook. My mother cooks, my sisters cook, and I cook, too I make powder bun eggs, chicken chips and rumpapo It is a happy time when We talk and laugh, and enjoy good food. Gilroy Middleton 1976-3-2 Belmopan Comprehousive School

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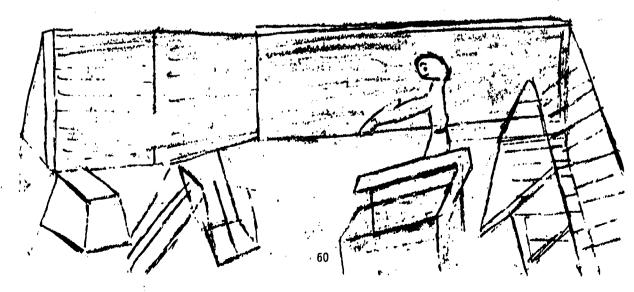
58

Second Year

I'm Going to the United States My mother and father have lived in Belize City for forty-three years. My mother went to the United States in February of this year to work. She is a nurse. I plan to go to the United States to live with her next year. My father is in the Army in California. When I get to the United States I will go to school. I am fourteen years old. After school I would like to have a job in a garage. I want to work as a mechanic on vehicles: buses, trucks, cars. Belmopan Comprehensive School Armendo Guerrero

Learning Woodworking Skills

In Mr Sosa's woodworking class I was making a box. I was working with mahogany. I was working fast to get my box ready for the exhibition, and somebody broke it. I felt discouraged. I know Mr. Sosa was discouraged, too. I don't want this experience to keep me from learning woodworking skills, so I plan to start making an ironing table. Ervin Cadle 1976-5-6



ne Culture of Merida Mexico

At Christmastime I went to Merida with my father because he needed an operation We took the road from Belize City to Corozal, then to Chetumal and Merida. There was a lot of traffic on the road at that time trucks and cars. The parts of Merida that I saw were beautiful. The market there had a lot of fruits and vegetables. The vegetable stalls are in long lines. You hear the sound of Spanish spoken everywhere. The Mexican people in Merida's market sell things that are hand-crafted, such as pottery and hammacks.

Dennis Bradley
1976-15-7





Household - Arts in At Belmopan Comprehensive Sthool

In First Year Four I learned to cook.

I can make doughouts, orange-cheese-straw

Cake, lemon pie, sweet potato pone, powder bun,

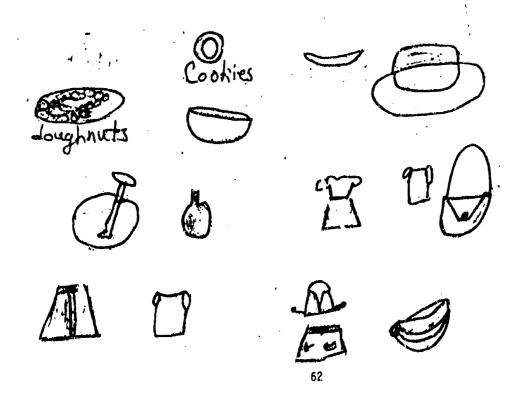
banana chocolate fudge. I still have

cooking with Mrs. Harris. When I cook

something, my parents and I enjoy eating

it.

With Mrs. Buckner I learned to sew a skirt. It is red and white broad-cloth. I have learned to make a blouse, and next term we are going to make pants. I learned to sew a toy frog. Cooking and sewing is important to me. Charlotte Middleton 1976-4-1
Belmopan Comprehensive School

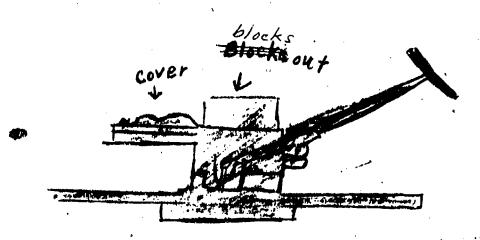


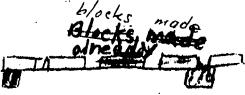
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Making Cement Blocks

From my father I learned how to make cement blocks. At first I didn't want to give time to this kind of work. I wanted to play instead. When I found out how good it was to make cement blocks I wanted to make them every afternoom. To make these blocks we use white mortar, alay, a bucket of cement and a bucket of water. This mixture is pressed in a mold then token out to dry. We leave them until we are ready to use them.

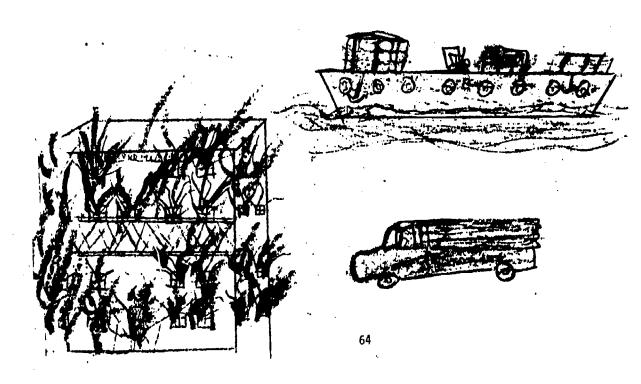




Belmopen Comprehensive School

63

A Part of My Life I am a native of Guatemala City. My family is bilingual
Spanish/English. My parents brought
me to Cayo when I was one year old. In Cayo life was good. We lived among our relatives. Then we moved to Orange Walk. There I remember the cone trucks passing, loaded with cane, and one incident especially, stays in my memory: the fire in the Nuevo M. Amor hotel. I have been living in Belmopan six years. Idelfonza Valdez 1976-3-25



Dangriga, A Carib Town When I was young I lived in Dangriga. Dangriga seems like a pretty place to me because of the people who live there. When I go to Dangriga, I travel with my sister on the bus. In Dangriga we stay with my Aunt Janice. When I am there, I love to go to a Carib dance. Bernade the Lopez 1976-3-18 Keimo Numa! Ayo! Ayo! Weibuga buma! Weibuga Dangriga!



LLUT CORY AVAILABLE

Farming Is Important In The Development Of Belize

My family has a farm. We have animals, and a large vegetable garden. We have cattle, geese, horses, ducks, chickens, turkeys, guinea hens, pigs, dogs, cats, and rabbits.

In our garden we grow lettuce,
tomatoes, peppers, cabbage, carrets, esco, radishes.
My father taught me to do work
on the farm. Farming is satisfying
and important work.
Leonel Tzul



Living Our Life

In my family there are twelve of us.

We are five girls and seven boys.

Things that we enjoy doing together are playing games, bathing in the sea, and going on trips.

We all like to cook.

Favorite things we make are ham with eggs, macaroni and cheese, and meat balls and sausages.

Phillipa Jefords

1976-3-1

Belimpon Comprehensive Shorl







Living In Garmany About two years ago my family, my mother, father, and four children went to Germany to live. My father is in the Army, and his regiment was sent there. We had been living in England. We came to Belize for a vacation. We returned to England, and from there we flew to Germany. Germany seemed like a very pretty country to me. We went to school at the Army Base. My first German friend lived across the street from us. I began to learn German from her. Cindy Paxton February 19,1976 Belmapan Comprehansive School . Third Year

Candy Making

Fudge is something I make well.

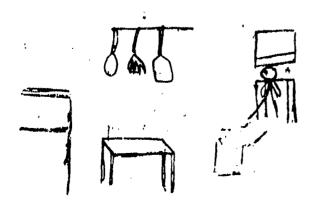
The ingredients I use are
a tim of condensed milk

I pound of white sugar
a pack of raisins
be cup of peanuts
I teaspoon of vanilla
I tablespoon butter

Method

In a succepon mix the milk, and sugar, and butter, and stir until brown. Then add peanuts, raisins, vanilla Drop a small amount of this into a cup of cold water. If it forms a ball, it is ready to pour int. a greased pain to set.

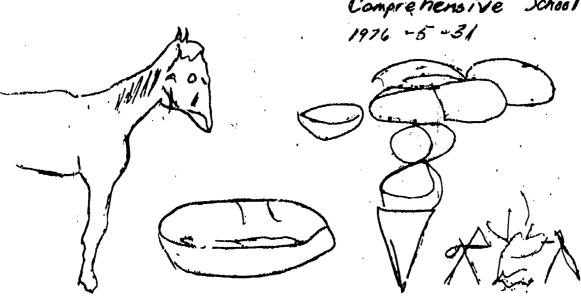
Therese Middleton 1976-6-7



Belize Agricultural Show In Belinguan

At the Agricultural Show grounds you can see displays of livestick, and crops that are raised in Belize. There are things on safe such as tomales, watermelon, snow-cones barbequed rabbit and bot dogs. On Monday they had the rodeo the greased pole contest coconut husking, and a water melon contest. There was no end to the dancing.

Comprehensive School



Bolise Village Lite Roaring Creek on the Western Highway is the village that I live in It's name came from the small river that runs through it. It is interesting for the many kinds of trees it has, guava, coconut, cashen, bukut, plum, cocoa, cahenne, breadfruit, supa and custored apple. The fruit from these trees is sold in the market. In the village we use these fruits to make guara jells excount oil, wine from coshen juice from bukut and stew from supa. Village life is calm. We have activities such as dancing horsebook riding and cattle herding. We are walking distance for bathing yet the is easy enugh Balmapan Congrationsive School



DEST COMY OWN ARLE

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Caribs Are An Ethnic Grup of Belize

Dangriga is on the shore of
Belize. I go there to bathe
in the Caribbean. I am a Carib
and Dangriga has a large Carib
settlement. It is noted for citrus
crops, bananas, cassava, yams, coco,
Among typical foods are fou fou,
boil-up and cassava breud. Caribs
make starch from cassava. They
handcraft baskets.

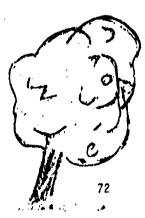
Dangriga is another name for

Dangriga is another name for Stamm Creek. I like to be in Dangriga November 19 for Carib Settlement Day. It is our great annual celebration.

Marilyn Lewis
1976-5-26
Belmapan Comprehensive











Rivera At Roaring Creek

In Roaring Creek there is a river where we go swimming every Sunday.

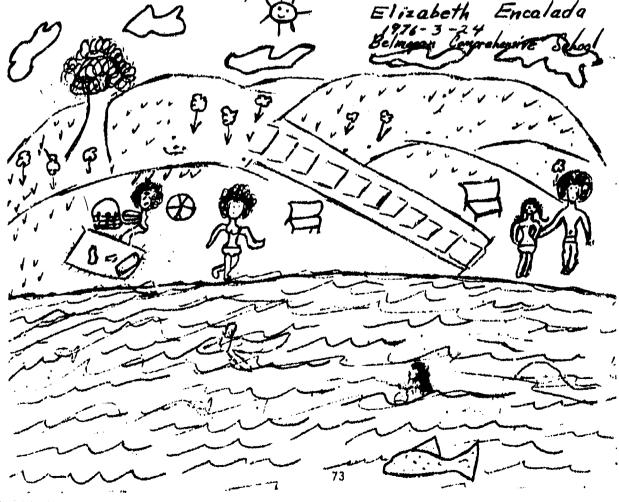
Roaring Creek is a village one-half mile from Belmopan, walking West.

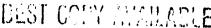
I usually go with Shirkene, Gloria, and Barbara.

We make our plans early Sunday morning.

We leave the house about 8:00 a.m., wearing our swimsuits and carrying a snack of sandwiches, biscuits and a soft drink.

We spend the day at the Rivera with other Belmopan, friends.







Youth Fashions In Belize 1976

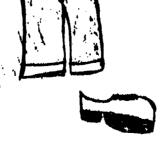
The youth in Belize have many different styles of dress. The greated variety of styles can be seen at Field Day, or at Birds Isle when there is a dance. Favorite styles for boys are bell-bottom pants and three quarter jeans, tank-type shirts, a jeans hat, necklaces of axes, beads beans, semi-precious stones, black coral and bracelets of ax bill shell.

I like to see girls wearing midi-skirts or dresses or three quarter pants made out of blue denim or jersey. I like afro hairstyles, and eleganza shoes. There are shoes with a high platform. I think kerchiefs are especially interesting for the different ways they can be worn. I like girls in earrings, rings, bangles and chokers.

Arturo Arnold







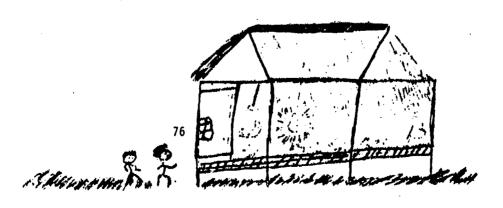
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Wressmaking Skills For four years In have been studying dressmaking at the Comprehensive . School with Mrs. Buckner, and Mrs. Hunter. Now I am in the process of making a pair of blue denim pants. Saturday, I went to Queen Street in Belize City to buy the denim at the shop of Simon Quan. Mrs. Bucknor showed me how to cut the cloth from a paper pattern. It pleases me to learn dressmaking skills. Now I do not have to depend on others to make my clothing. Dianne Perez 1976 - 4-7 Balmipen Comprehensive School

MANUEL CONTRACTOR

ERIC

A Poultry Raising Project In Belmopan In January of this year I started raising chickens. First I built a house of wood and thatch. I got the wood at Forestry and I went into the bush for the thatch. I put wire around the sides of the coop and at the top, too. I got twenty-five chickens to start with. They were small and yellow. I fed They were small and yellow. I feather a mash of ground corn and concentrate, and they need water which should be changed every evening. The chicken house was equipped with a light for warmth. Since January they have grown from small yellow to medium-sized brown medium-sized brown. Michael Bevons 1976 - 3-31 Balmapar Comprehensive School



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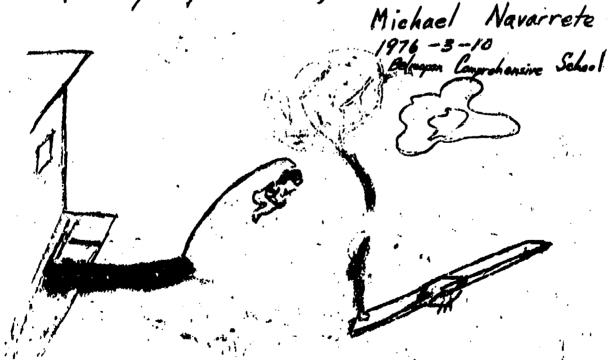


Belizean Bread Now and then I make Creole get the ingredients together. bread. I must have: coconut milk, lard, flour, yeast, salt and sugar. I grate the coconnt, pour warm water over it, and squeeze out the coconut milk. I put the yeast to set, I sift the flour and add sugar, salt, land the yeast and the coconut milk. I mix these, knead the dough and set it aside to rise. After a time I punch the dough down, shape it into loaves, and set it to tise again. I i e it in a 350° over for two hours Baking bread gives me a good feeling. Jennifer Jones 1974-3-17 Comprehensive School Refrige Brend CO DO

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A Skill That Interests Me

Acrobatics and callisthenics interest me very much. I first became interested in this kind of thing when I saw boys practicing it in a sawdust field in Belize City. When I got to Belmapan, I began to practice in the ball field. Some other boys joined me for the exercises and I began to collect equipment. We work out in my yard now, on a springboard. Michael Navarreto



ERIC

The Game I Like Best

The tennis courts in Belmopan are near the Club.

I learned to play tennis last year.

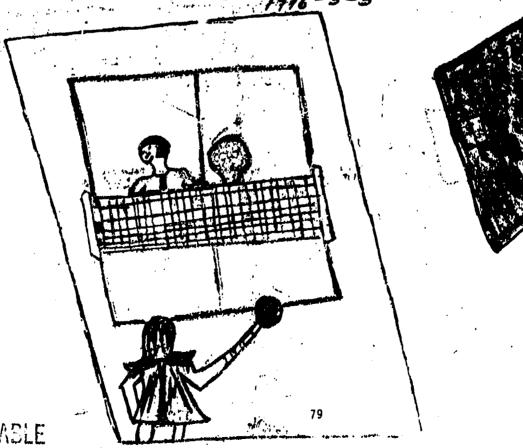
Mrs. Wager war was the

Tennis is a good game.

I enjoy it so much I play toar times a week.

Shirlene Johnson

1976-3-3



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My Family - Belmopan

We came here about two years aga.

We're trying to get our yard together.

Last year I started to plant

some corn. This year I started

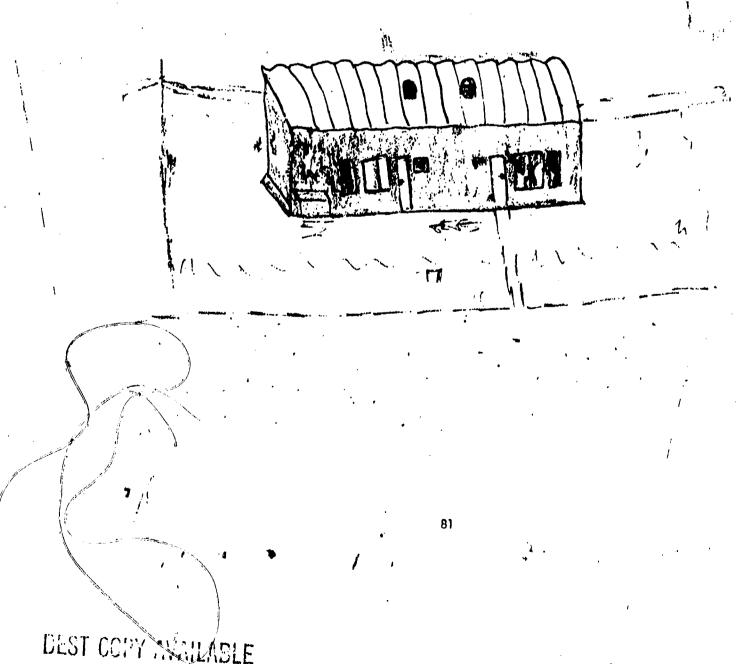
to plant some coco and plantain.

Coco is a plant. The part that

you eat grows under the ground.

Adult

1976-1-21



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Belize is a nice place.

Especially if you have a nice job, or have money. There are nice places to go. You can go to the sea or go hunting. It's good to be a Belizean. You can go where you want, and no one will distarb you. You have freedom of speech. You can say what you think, or what you don't like.

Belize from the supplied with systems Houses are supplied with water in different ways. Pipes carry water, and rain water is collected in vats.

Data 7
(cont'cl)

Belize as a whole is a poor country, but many people don't realize what Belize has in the way of natural resources. Our neighbors Mexico, Guatamala, Handura: have natural resources such as oil. Although we do not have large quantities of oil well have land for faming.

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Independence of Belize

On February 9, representatives

of Great Britain, and Guatemala, are

going to meet in New Orleans for

talks on the guestion of the

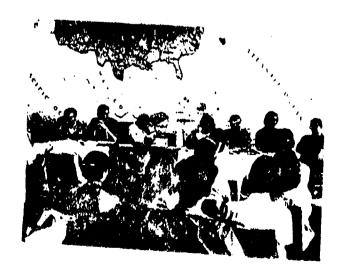
independence of Belize. The Premier

of Belize George Price, will be

present at the talks.

Adult.

Adult.





Races of People in Belize
Our country has different races of people. There are seven. The three races now with the largest populations are Creole Spanish - speaking and Caribs. The Caribs came here a little over one-hundred years ago. They still have their own customs, their own dancing, their own foods that they like. The Spanish - speaking have special customs, too. Around Christmes time they pray to Our Lady of Guadalupe. In November, in Coro, they have a fiesta for the Nino Jesus. The fiesta lasts for nine days and after it they have a little get-together with tacos and tamples to eat.

Adult 1976-1-28

Ruces of Reople in Belize (cont'd) Creoles are mostly dark They have a different way of speaking. They speak Creole Creole comes from a combination of African dialects and English. Adult. 1976 - 2 -3. (cont'd) Creoles like ballet and opera and plays. They mostly like foods like rice and beans, boil-up, plantain, coeo, pigtail (cont'd) As a Creole child I was used to associating with all kinds of people. It didn't matter who the kid was, as long as he was decent, and nice. Most people in Belize, bring up their children in that Iway. 1976-2-10

Roces of People in Belize (contid)

My one brother and five sisters were different from me in a lot of ways.

In a lot of ways.

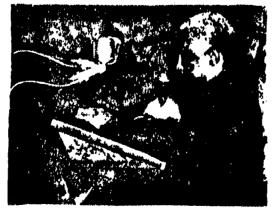
As a boy I had to work to help my mother. One of my jobs was to go out to the bush to eut word.







Mayo



('reole 87

Our Children

I have some nice little children. Each one is different. Each one has his own ways. Our children are Anthony, Josephine, Barbara, Patrick, Albert, Dawn, Gerald and Robert. Anthony likes to study, Burbara is a chatterbox, Dawn likes cooking, Josephine is a reader, Robert plays football. Putrick plays ball and helps his mother. Albert and Gerold, our youngest children stay in Belize City with their Granny. Adult 1976-3-25





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Milpa Farming In Belize It is getting to be the end of the dry in Belize. This means it is time to cut and burn the milpos. When it's raw bush you underbrush, then fall. When the milpa has been used, the bush must be cut with a machete and left for one week to dry. Then it is burned. I start my fire at midday when the dew has dried. On my milpa burning takes about half an hour. This milpa is about fourteen task. A task measures 25 yards by 25 yards.

Three Years In New York I went to the In. 1970 United States, to New York City. I had never been outside Belize had heard about New York wanted to see what it was like. I went by plane from here to Miam. then on to New York. cousin George Lawrence M_{y} lives there and I stayed with him for three years. I worked while I was there in a machine factory 23d Street. Adult 1976 - 5 - 18

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Story Vocabulary
Used in Different Context
Syria and Lobanon are Arabic countries

Bolmopen is the capital of Boliza

We get bananas from a trac in our yard.

You can see the cayes from the show of Belize.

Chetumal is at the border of Mexico.

Conch fritters are a favorite Belizean food.

Corn, okra, cucumbers are umong the local <u>crops</u>.

Belize was a British colony and has many English customs.

There are places in

Polize where you can cross

a river on a ferry.

For some people mangers and carrots are similar in taste.

They sell ham, cheese, eggs, chickens, milk, vegetables at the Mennasite store in Belize City.

Elvira's and Espats sell many things, including sweets.

In Belize rice is grown in a milpa setting.

There are many Spanish-speaking Belizeans.

ERIC

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Since 1961 when the Peace Corps was created, more than 80,000 U.S. citizens have served as Volunteers in developing countries, living and working among the people of the Third world as colleagues and co-workers. Today 6000 PCVs are involved in programs designed to help strengthen local capacity to address such fundamental concerns as food production, water supply, energy development, nutrition and health education and reforestation.

Loret Miller Ruppe, Director Edward Curran, Deputy Director Designate Richard B. Abell, Director, Office of Program Development

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